



Helping Students Make Wiser Choices Since 1992

Monthly Theme: August through May
Elementary Level Series 1

May: Making Our School a Caring Place

Daily broadcast message pages 44, 57, 75, 76, 83, 91, 102, 109, 120, 125, 133, 134, 145, 149, 162, Special 25, and Special 26. *

*As much as possible, narrate the messages in order listed for the best flow of ideas.
We have provided more messages than necessary for a typical month
so you can choose those messages best suited for your campus.

Also available for Educator Resource Site (ERS) Premium Subscribers

“Sharing Our Lives Together” and “Manners Matter”

These ERS lesson plans and additional broadcast messages correspond to this monthly theme.



LOVE

Overcoming Hatred

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

Some people say

Love is the glue that holds the universe together.

We know that glue sticks things together, right? And if you think about it, so does love. Think of the person you love most in the world. Don't you feel very close to that person . . . connected?

So, if love is like a glue that connects things, what do you think hate does? Hate separates. It separates nation from nation, people from people. It can even separate *you* into tiny pieces. You can't be a happy and together person and be filled with hate.

But wait! You don't *have* to go to pieces! You can let go of those hateful feelings. Find someone you love and trust, and talk about it. We have great counselors (teachers) who can help. Maybe together you can find a way to glue things back together.

With something to think about, this is name of narrator. Make it a great day . . . or not. The choice is yours.

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CORDIALITY

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

How many of you have heard of the word *cordial*? It sounds a little old-fashioned, doesn't it? *Cordial* comes from the same root as the word *courage*, which means "from the heart." When we are cordial, we are kind and respectful.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said:

The music that can deepest reach and cure all ills is cordial speech.

When we are cordial with others, we speak to them from our hearts, and when we speak from our hearts, our speech is kind and respectful. In a world where too many people speak hateful, hurtful words, maybe we could use some old-fashioned cordiality.

You know, sometimes it takes more courage to be cordial than cool.

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LOVE

Caring/Overcoming Hatred

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

Pope John Paul II was the spiritual leader of millions of American children. He once wrote a letter to the children of the world. In his letter he writes:

You know this well, children: love and harmony build peace; hatred and violence destroy it.

Love connects people, don't you think? And when people feel connected, they get along. Hate separates people and can cause people to do harmful things.

Today, help build peace in our world and in our school. Be caring with one another.

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COURTESY

Kindness/Manners

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

The word *courteous* means *polite* and *respectful*. When we are courteous, we behave in a way that shows good manners and respect. We try not to be hurtful to others.

There's an old saying:

The greater the person, the greater the courtesy.*

So, what does being courteous have to do with being a great human being? Great people understand that when you hurt others, you hurt yourself. They know that when you are respectful to others, they are more likely to show you respect, and that's a great thing!

I believe that every one of you has the potential to be great. Today, show off your greatness. Be courteous to others.

With something to think about, this is name of narrator. Make it a great day . . . or not. The choice is yours.

*Source unknown

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KINDNESS

Love

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

Today, I want you to stop for a minute and think about the last time someone hurt your feelings. Maybe that person wouldn't share with you, or said something mean, or laughed at you when you made a mistake. It's painful when others tease us or treat us badly.

Someone wise once said:

***Little children never give
pain to things that feel and live.***

All of us have feelings. All of us want to be treated nicely. Today, let's not be hurtful to others. Instead, let's give each other what we ourselves want. Let's treat each other with love and kindness.

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STRENGTH

Kindness

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

Do you think you're tough? Then listen up! Today's words of wisdom are especially for you:

***Tenderness and kindness are not signs of weakness . . .
but signs of strength.***

These are the words of Kahlil Gibran, the great Lebanese writer and painter.

When we have good self-esteem and strong character, it's easy to be kind to others because we've learned to be kind to ourselves. Do you remember the following words from Aesop's Fables?

No act of kindness is ever wasted.

Today, show some *real* strength. Be kind to others, and allow others to be kind to you. You might be surprised at just how strong you really are.

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KIND WORDS

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

We've all heard the old saying "Sticks and stones can break my bones, but words can never harm me."

What do you think about that? Do you think words can harm you? You bet they can! Unkind words can hurt! It's a different kind of hurt from the one when someone hits you, but it still hurts . . . in your heart.

Listen to this Vietnamese proverb:

Nice words are free, so choose words that please another's ears.

It doesn't cost anything to speak kindly to others, but we all pay a high price when we speak hurtful words to one another. Today, choose words that are kind and respectful.

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WISDOM

Rules For Living

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

Some people say that wisdom comes with age, and that's true. As we grow older, we learn from our life and gain a little wisdom, but American author Robert Fulghum says that there is wisdom in a kindergarten classroom.

In kindergarten we learn to:

- share everything
- play fair
- don't hit people
- put things back where you found them
- say you're sorry when you hurt someone
- hold hands and stick together
- follow the Golden Rule

Whether we are in kindergarten or in college, those are some pretty wise rules to follow, don't you think?

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Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

The following is a true story:

Once upon a time there was a family — a husband, a wife, and their two children. They lived in a small house with only one bedroom. They loved each other and took care of each other, and though it was crowded, they thought they were very rich because their house was filled with love.

One day the children grew up and married and had children of their own. Every winter holiday, they returned to the small cottage. At bedtime, the one bed, the overstuffed chair, and the sofa were full. The floors were filled with sleeping bags. Still, the family loved each other and they thought they were very, very rich.

Why on earth did they think they were rich? After all, they lived in such a tiny little house. They were wise enough to understand this old German proverb:

Love can turn a cottage into a golden palace.

Today, remember that love is what makes a person truly wealthy.

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Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

The word *essential* means something you really need and cannot do without. For example, food is essential to our bodies.

Now I have a secret to share, so listen up. These words are from the famous children's book *The Little Prince*.

And now here is my secret, a very simple secret; it is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.*

In other words, we cannot see love, but it is essential — we cannot do without it. Did you know that some scientists believe that human beings really do have to have love to survive? What do you think?

So remember this: Love may be invisible, but acts of love are easy to see. Today, focus on the bare essentials of life. Show somebody some love. This is one secret you don't want to keep.

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*Antoine DeSaint-Exupery

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COURTESY

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

Does it ever seem to you like everything costs a lot of money? Are there things you want, but they simply cost too much?

Well, don't be too disheartened, because the best things in life are free. Now listen to this American proverb:

There is nothing that costs so little nor goes so far as courtesy.

Think about it. Being well-mannered, kind, and respectful to others doesn't cost you a penny, but it's worth a great deal. In fact, it can help you succeed in life, and it not only enriches your life, it enriches the lives of those around you. Today, remember this: Courtesy pays.

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MANNERS

Courtesy/Respect

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

Did you know that Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts have special rules they live by? One of those rules is being well-mannered. The Scout Law says:

Good manners make it easier for people to get along.

In other words, Scouts believe that when people are polite to each other, they get along better. Why? Because when we are being well-mannered, we are being respectful. We don't hurt other people's feelings. We say "please" and "thank you," we share with others, we let others go first, and we take turns.

What do you think? Do you think if everyone had good manners, people would get along better? Today, follow the Scout Law and use your very best manners. It's a good rule for living.

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Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

Have you ever felt as if you had the weight of the world on your shoulders? Did you know that everybody has times when life is hard?

What can we do when we are hurting or sad? One thing we can do is look for the love in our lives. We can look for love in our parents or friends or teachers . . . or in our places of worship. We can look for love in our sacred books or in the beauty of nature or in the things we love to do. We can look for love inside ourselves, and we can give that love to those around us.

Today, remember these words from an ancient Greek philosopher:

***One word frees us of all the weight and pain of life.
That word is love.***

The next time you're feeling really sad, remember to give and receive a little love.

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*Sophocles

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KIND WORDS

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

Listen up! There is an Arabic proverb that goes like this:

The sword wounds the body, but words wound the soul.

It's true, you know. Words can wound. Unkind words can really hurt. Sometimes they can hurt for a very long time.

If you take a minute to think about it, you can probably remember something someone said to you a long time ago that hurt your feelings. Does it still hurt to think about it?

There are a lot of people who look just fine on the outside, but inside they've been wounded by unkind words. So today, let's heal some wounds. Be especially aware of how you speak to others, and give away a few kind words.

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COMPASSION

Love

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

The word *compassion* means wanting to help someone who is hurting. Some people say that we are born with compassion in our hearts. Did you know that no sound upsets a newborn baby more than the sound of other babies crying? Older babies will start to cry when another child gets hurt and cries, and toddlers will try to comfort someone who is hurt or crying, too.

Compassion is important because it reminds us that we are connected to others and their feelings. The Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of Tibet, says this about compassion:

A heart full of love and compassion gives us inner strength, willpower, happiness, and peace of mind.*

Today, be compassionate with others and see if you aren't a stronger and happier person.

With something to think about, this is name of narrator. Make it a great day . . . or not. The choice is yours.

*Original quote: "A heart full of love and compassion is the main source of inner strength, willpower, happiness, and mental tranquility."

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CINCO DE MAYO

Victory

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

Cinco de Mayo means the Fifth of May. This is a very important date for both Mexicans and Mexican-Americans. All over Mexico and in some parts of America, there will be parades and parties and fireworks.

Why all the celebration? Because in 1862 on the Fifth of May, a poorly armed Mexican army won a great victory over the French army. Even though the Mexicans had poor weapons — some had to fight with farm tools — they fought hard for their country and for their freedom.

On Cinco de Mayo, Mexicans celebrate the bravery of these Mexican soldiers and their fight for freedom. We Americans can join in this celebration because . . .

America is the land of the free.

Our freedom gives us the power to choose where we live or work, where we will play or worship.

So today (tomorrow) we can join our Mexican neighbors as we celebrate the importance of freedom for all people all over the world.

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MOTHER'S DAY

Love

Good morning, name of school. This is name of narrator with a few words of wisdom.

Some of us think a gift has to be a *thing* . . . a material thing . . . usually an expensive thing wrapped in pretty paper with a big bow. But the greatest gift we can ever give is not a *thing*. It can't be touched. It's invisible to the eye. It has no price tag.

The greatest gift is the gift of love.*

This Sunday is Mother's Day, a day set aside to honor the women in our lives who mother us. Maybe it's a mom or stepmom or grandmother or aunt.

This Mother's Day give the person who mothers you something *really* special. Sit down with her and talk from your heart. Tell her how much she means to you. Tell her how much you appreciate all the things she does for you. Tell her what you love most about her. Tell her why she's special. Then wrap it up with a great big hug and seal it with a kiss.

With something to think about, this is name of narrator. Make it a great day . . . or not. The choice is yours.

*Author unknown

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